

My name is Gregg Marchand

I am speaking here today to disagree with the Bill no 6198 AN ACT PROHIBITING OPEN ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTAINERS IN MOTOR VEHICLES.

I would like to start by saying I find it disheartening amongst other feelings the U.S government will hold back money for Connecticut highways if this law is not passed. Is this a form of bribery? When Connecticut has money coming, it should come to Connecticut without stipulations. It's ours, so let it be.

The Open Container law is frivolous and entrapping. If I am driving a passenger and he is drinking a beer, where is the Public Safety issue? Where is the crime? There is none. A crime is an action that puts a citizen's safety at risk. How does a passenger in a vehicle drinking alcohol or having an open container in a vehicle create a public safety issue or resemble a crime? It does not!

This seems to be a perfect example of lawmakers wasting tax dollars to pass bills for the sole purpose of creating revenue, and/or giving police yet another false probable cause to pull someone over, then search and seize. Besides we have a refund on returnable containers.

Driving safely does not have anything to do with items that may be in your vehicle. Please, all Representatives of Connecticut, make laws that keep safety for the citizens your priority, not creating business/money for the courts.

Quit making frivolous laws and adapt by having police take care of laws already written. Just as the seatbelt law is clearly not a public safety issue, yet public safety officers ticket a driver for not wearing it. In other words if I drive down the road not wearing the belt and you are driving passed me your ability to drive safely is not breached by me not wearing the belt. Clearly it's not a public safety issue therefore it is a total misuse of proper policing. Lawmakers assume the belt will save my life or limb Laws are made to stop crime. A crime is an intentional act. Laws and punishment should be reserved for when actual crimes have been committed. If there's no harm, injury, or loss to any person or property with intent, there has been no crime to charge anyone. If anyone dies due to the seat belt being jammed by an accident and drown, burn or suffocated by the pull of it, the government by law, forces me to wear it, should government not be charged with full liability and murder? This clearly with a doubt should be a freedom of choice on the grounds it does not guarantee life or limb

Thank you,

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